

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

4  
5           The present invention provides isolated nucleic acids encoding full-length  
6 human estrogen receptor- $\beta$  (hER $\beta$ ), which comprises 530 amino acids. The invention also  
7 provides isolated hER $\beta$  polypeptides and hER $\beta$ -reactive antibodies, including those that  
8 specifically recognize amino acids 1-45 of hER $\beta$ . The invention also encompasses methods  
9 for identifying hER $\beta$ -interactive compounds, including agonists, antagonists, and co-  
10 activators.